North Carolina's Department of Commerce, Division of Employment Security leads the Department of Labor's Southeastern Region in investigating and re-classifying misclassified workers. In 2013, 5,691 workers were re-classified from independent contractor to employees. Of that total, 1,332 workers were reclassified based upon 147 persons//claimants protesting to the DES they were misclassified. When the employer was investigated /audited other misclassified workers also were re-classified to employees.

Thru September 2014, the DES Tax Auditors have reclassified 3,927 workers to employees. This year, two employers are protesting reclassifications of 133 and 780 workers. The protest process often involves a lengthy tax Hearing which can be appealed to Superior Court.